

THE UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS AT CHICAGO
College of Business Administration
Department of Accounting

Accounting 484 – International Accounting
Fall 2008

Instructor:

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Office Hours: 12:30 – 2:30 pm Tuesday, 2:30 – 4:30 Wednesday, and 3:30 – 4:30
Thursday.

Prerequisite:

Accounting 316: Intermediate Financial Accounting II.

From the Accounting Department Mission Statement:

The accounting department is committed to quality educational programming, research pursuits and community service. We significantly contribute to the College of Business Administration's mission to create new knowledge, new business, new value and new leaders for Chicago and the world beyond. Students admitted to our degree programs must show the potential and demonstrate proficiency in contemporary management skills such as information technology, communication techniques and teamwork. The program will promote a prospective of the global economy and cultural diversification necessary for the knowledge worker of the 21 century.

Course Objectives:

Generally accepted accounting principles and reporting practices vary significantly throughout the world, even though much attention is being paid to reducing the differences. This course examines the international dimensions of financial reporting and analysis. It provides students with an in-depth look at multinational enterprises and the preparation and presentation of financial statements in different nations. Topics covered include foreign currency transactions, translation of foreign currency financial statements, international transfer pricing, international corporate taxation, financial disclosure, and international accounting harmonization.

The objectives of this course include enhancing your understanding of:

- the historical basis for diversity in financial reporting across nations.
- harmonization and standardization.
- the institutional and regulatory structures in accounting that have developed in response to global financial markets.
- the development of international financial accounting standards.
- accounting information systems in multinational entities.
- the market risks of exposure to foreign currency transactions.
- the analysis and comparison of U.S. and foreign financial statements.
- international auditing and taxation.

Catalog Description:

Financial accounting for international operations, multinational managerial accounting and control, comparative international accounting, international reporting issues and international taxation.

Required Text:

International Accounting. Doupnik and Perera, McGraw-Hill Inc. 1st ed. 2007.

Teaching Method:

I consider learning to be a joint endeavor. It is my job to facilitate learning. It is your job to read the assigned materials and work the assigned exercises, problems, and cases before they are discussed in class. This calls for a lot of effort on your part. However, it is the only way you can successfully learn the course material and realistically develop the set of skills needed to become an accountant.

The classes are lecture, discussion, and problem solving oriented. You are encouraged to ask questions and provide comments as considered appropriate. Every student will be called on in class to discuss assigned material and problems. Some problems or cases may be solved in small groups (teams) during class, with one or more teams presenting their answers.

Grading:

Course final grades will be determined based upon the following criteria:

First Exam	35%	140 points
Second Exam	35%	140 points
Country Study Report	20%	80 points
Homework	<u>10%</u>	<u>40</u> points
Total	<u>100%</u>	<u>400</u> points

Final grades will be based on a straight 90%, 80%, 70%, 60%, scale for an A, B, C, D, etc. The scale may be lowered if deemed necessary.

Students taking this class for graduate credit or as an 'honor' course will be required to complete an extra project. If you are receiving graduate credit for this class or taking it as an 'honor' course please see me as soon as possible to discuss ideas for the extra project.

Incomplete:

Incompletes will be granted only in documented cases of undue hardship or clearly extraordinary circumstances, and according to university policies.

Homework:

Each student is responsible for reading the assigned chapter and doing all of the assigned homework before class. Homework exercises, problems, and cases should each be answered separately to ease collection. Homework will be randomly collected on the stated due dates for grading. Late homework or e-mail homework will not be accepted. Written homework solutions will be available shortly after the assignments are discussed in class.

Exams:

Exams may consist of multiple choice, short answer, problems, and/or essays. They are to be taken as scheduled in the course calendar. There will be **no make-up exams**.

Groups:

As you enter your professional careers you will find out that the ability to function well as part of a group, team, or committee is necessary for success. During this course, you will have the opportunity to work in a group. Students will have the option of selecting their own group or being assigned to one. Since the group is designed to function as a unified body, everyone in the group will receive the same grade for each project. However, at the end of the semester, I will afford each group member the opportunity to grade the other members of the group. This will give me an opportunity to adjust the grades of nonperforming group members. Please note that collusion among groups for assignments will be construed as cheating.

Country Study Report and Presentation:

Each group will be assigned to prepare a twenty minute presentation using Microsoft Powerpoint on a country (not covered in chapter five in the textbook). Each team must also submit a printed report. The report should include a title page, executive summary, ten to twelve pages in the body, a reference page, and two or more exhibits. More on this project will be available on blackboard shortly.

Note: While chapter five will not be covered in class, it is essential to study it thoroughly as a foundation for the project.

Attendance:

Regular class attendance is essential and expected. There is a direct correlation between attendance and success in the course. If you miss a class session due to sickness or emergency, it is your responsibility to obtain the class notes from a classmate. You are responsible for everything covered in all class sessions.

Academic Integrity:

In all courses, you are expected to conduct yourselves in a manner that is consistent with the university standards of academic honesty. Any student who cheats on an assignment or exam will receive a grade of “F” for the course and may also be dismissed from the university.

General:

Every effort will be made to adhere to the information and schedule set forth in this syllabus. Any changes, which are necessitated as the semester progresses, will be announced on a timely basis. Regular attendance will ensure that you are aware of any modification made.

**Accounting 484
COURSE CALENDAR**

#	Date	Day	Activity and Assignment
1	Aug. 27	W	Course introduction, policies, and resources. Ch. 1: Introduction to International Accounting. Homework: All the assignments are from exercises, problems, and cases. HW: 1, 2, 3, and Case 1-3.
2	Sep. 3	W	Ch. 2: Worldwide Accounting Diversity. HW: 1, 3, 6, and Case 2-2.
3	Sep. 10	W	Ch. 3: International Harmonization of Financial Reporting. HW: 1, 2, 5, 7, 12, and Cases 3-1, 3-2.
4	Sep. 17	W	Ch. 4: International Financial Reporting Standards. HW: 1, 2, 4, 5, and Case 1-1.
5	Sep. 24	W	Ch. 6: Foreign Currency Transactions and Hedging Foreign Exchange Risk. HW: 4, 5, 6, 7, 8 and Case 6-1.
6	Oct. 1	W	Ch 6: Continued. HW: 9, 10, 12, 18 and Cases 6-2, 6-3.
7	Oct. 8	W	First Exam (Chapters 1 – 4, and 6)
8	Oct. 15	W	Ch. 7: Translation of Foreign Currency Financial Statements. HW: 8, 9, 11, 12, 14 and Cases 7-1, 7-3.
9	Oct. 22	W	Ch. 9: Analysis of Foreign Financial Statements. HW: 1, 2, 4, 7
10	Oct. 29	W	Ch. 10: International Taxation. HW: 13, 14, 15, 17, 24 Team Assignment #1: Case 10-1 (Due November 12)**
11	Nov. 5	W	Ch. 11: International Transfer Pricing. HW: 14, 15, 16, 19 Team Assignment #2: Case 11-2 (Due November 19)**
12	Nov. 12	W	Ch. 12: Strategic Accounting Issues in Multinational Corporations. HW: 4, 7, 8 and Case 12-1
13	Nov. 19	W	Ch. 13: Comparative International Auditing and Corporate Governance. HW: 2,7, 11 and Case 13-2
14	Nov. 26	W	Second Exam (Chapters 7, and 9 – 13)
15	Dec. 3	W	Group Presentations.

** Team Assignments will be collected on due dates.

Best Wishes